

Deep Dive

November 2025



An E-Newsletter from Tamil Nadu Technology Hub

Table of Contents

01	Foreword	01
02	Hon'ble IT&DS Minister's Diary	02
03	iTNT Hub Now in Coimbatore	06
04	What's Brewing @ iTNT Hub	15
05	At Our Regional Hubs	23
06	Founder Stories	25
07	DeepTech Insights	27
08	Hirings	28
09	Events on the Radar	30

Foreword

The inauguration of the iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub by the Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, marks an important milestone for Tamil Nadu's DeepTech landscape. This hub brings a long-awaited innovation platform to Western Tamil Nadu – one that unites startups, researchers, academia, and industry to accelerate technology development and create impactful solutions from the region.

Coimbatore has always been a city of builders and innovators. With iTNT Hub's presence, we now have the opportunity to elevate this legacy by enabling stronger connections between research and real-world application. The hub will serve as a catalyst for emerging technologies including AI, IoT, mobility engineering, industrial automation, and cybersecurity, strengthening Coimbatore's evolution into a high-tech innovation district and the region at large.

As part of this launch, Bosch Global Software Technologies as an industry partner of iTNT Hub is proud to jointly introduce the Bosch Innovation Challenge, focused on Reimagining IoT Security. As connected systems become central to industry and society, secure-by-design frameworks are essential.

Through this challenge we invite startups, academic teams, and innovators to build scalable, standards-aligned security solutions that can shape the future of trustworthy IoT ecosystems. Through mentorship, technical guidance, and pathways to incubation, we aim to support promising talent and drive serious innovation.

iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub reflects a broader vision – one where Tamil Nadu becomes a destination for high-value R&D, IP creation, and deep-tech entrepreneurship. With its strong industry base, engineering talent, and culture of innovation, Coimbatore is uniquely positioned to lead this transformation.

I am confident that this new ecosystem will inspire ambitious ideas, foster meaningful collaboration, and enable the next wave of innovators from our region. Together, let us build solutions that strengthen industries, empower communities, and shape a more secure, intelligent, and sustainable future.



Mr. Naved Narayan

**Vice President & Head - R & D Center,
Bosch Global Software Technologies (BGSW),
Coimbatore**

Hon'ble IT&DS Minister's Diary

November was marked by the launch of various landmark initiatives and projects marked by Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services. A glimpse of some of the key initiatives launched by and in his presence in November 2025.

International Standard Hockey Ground Inaugurated



The Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin as part of his various measures to improve our state sports department to world standard opened the newly constructed international standard hockey ground at Madurai Racecourse playground worth Rs. 20 Crore for public use, on November 22, 2025. The Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan; and Minister for Commercial Tax and Registration, Thiru. P. Moorthy; were present on the occasion.



In the presence of the IT & DS Minister, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin also inaugurated the 12-day Saras Mela – 2025 at the Tamukkam Convention Centre in Madurai and also opened the newly established Kalaigarnar Library to commemorate the birth centenary celebrations of former Chief Minister Dr. M. Karunanidhi.

17th India Game Developer Conference



The Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin was the Chief Guest of the 17th India Game Developer Conference (IGDC) in Chennai from November 5 to 7, 2025. The prestigious event is being hosted in Tamil Nadu for the first time by the Game Developers Association of India (GDAI) in collaboration with ELCOT – IT & DS Department. Several MoUs were exchanged between ELCOT and the industry in the presence of the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and the Minister for IT&DS, to further strengthen Tamil Nadu's gaming and digital entertainment ecosystem. Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan stated that under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K. Stalin, Tamil Nadu continues to lead in technological innovation and the adoption of future technologies.



In his address, the Hon'ble IT & DS Minister shared that the TN AVGC-XR Policy, developed over two years through consultations with local studios, associations, and experts, is now in its final stage. Built on four pillars – 1. Education & Skilling, 2. Infrastructure, 3. Ease of doing business, and 4. Financial incentives – it will also establish a facilitation cell at ELCOT and a Centre of Excellence in Chennai to support creators and startups. He termed the event a milestone reflecting the State's growing strength in digital creativity and innovation. Tamil Nadu's inclusive governance, talent base, and creative energy were underlined as key reasons why the State is emerging as India's hub for gaming and immersive tech, and as a future creative capital, he added.

iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub



The iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister at the Government College of Technology (GCT) Campus, Coimbatore, the third regional centre in Tamil Nadu and the first for the Western Region, following Madurai and Trichy. As part of the event, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan also launched the Bosch Innovation Challenge with Bosch Global Software Technologies and iTNT Hub, and IP Nexus 2026 with Karpagam Innovation and Incubation Council to strengthen IP commercialisation and technology transfer. In the presence of the Minister, iTNT Hub exchanged a MoU with PSG-STEP to establish iTNT Hub's satellite office in Coimbatore. The Minister exclaimed that Tamil Nadu is steadily diversifying its research ecosystem and converting this strength into a vibrant and future-ready Deep Tech landscape.



Book Launch: The Man Who Fed India



Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan paid tribute and launched the book “M.S. Swaminathan: The Man Who Fed India”, an event graced by MP and Actor Dr. Kamal Haasan. In a fireside chat with the author Priyambada Jayakumar, the Hon’ble Minister shared his thoughts on Prof. M.S. Swaminathan’s enduring vision, and his belief that “national security begins with food security” remains deeply relevant today.



The pandemic and global disruptions reminded us how fragile supply chains can be – and how right he was in recognising self-reliance as the cornerstone of true national strength. For him, self-sufficiency was never about isolation but about empowerment, weaving together agriculture, economy, and social welfare into one humane and forward-looking framework.

Simbli & its 1st AI Agent, Alfred

The Hon’ble Minister for IT&DS launched Simbli and its first AI Agent, Alfred, by a Madurai-based startup. Sharing it on his social media handles, the Minister said that the innovation built in India is made for creators, marketers, and innovators worldwide. As artificial intelligence transforms industries and redefines the nature of work, it ends up creating new opportunities that demand higher skills and ethical oversight. Simbli represents this shift, showing how technology can empower creativity rather than replace it. What makes this moment truly special is that it emerges from Madurai – reflecting the Government’s vision of balanced, region-wide development, where every district contributes to Tamil Nadu’s digital growth story. With world-class talent, robust digital infrastructure, and a governance model rooted in inclusion and social justice, Tamil Nadu continues to lead India’s next leap in technology and innovation.



CII 8th Edition Connect Madurai 2025 – Investech South TN



Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan delivered the Inaugural Address at the 8th Edition of CII Connect Madurai 2025 - Investech South TN, a platform that reflected the growing strength of Tamil Nadu's innovation landscape. The Hon'ble Minister underlined how Madurai, rooted in heritage yet driven by new entrepreneurial energy, is emerging as an important pillar of the State's inclusive development model.

Tamil Nadu's expanding startup ecosystem, rising women-led enterprises and strong economic momentum show how opportunity and innovation are deepening across regions. The minister also spoke about

how AI and emerging technologies are reshaping work, and how Tamil Nadu is preparing for this shift through deep-tech hubs, industry-academia collaboration and problem-led local innovation.

He ascertained that in a world moving towards regional value chains, our strong domestic market gives startups a distinct advantage. Madurai's ecosystem – powered by established industries, national players and global firms – continues to create fertile ground for new solutions. Global partnerships are bringing investment, talent and our diaspora closer to the State's growth journey, he added.



iTNT Hub

Now in Coimbatore



Hon'ble IT&DS Minister Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan Inaugurates iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub



- Interacts with innovators, entrepreneurs, studentpreneurs at Tech Showcase
- Launches "Bosch Innovation Challenge" & "IP Nexus 2026"
- iTNT Hub Satellite Office to come at PSG, Coimbatore

The iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub was inaugurated by Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology & Digital Services, at the Government College of Technology Campus, Coimbatore, on 22nd November 2025. It is the first regional centre of

iTNT Hub in Western Tamil Nadu - and third in the State - marking a significant milestone in the Tamil Nadu Government's proactive measures to support Deep and Emerging Tech startups and researchers, thereby nurturing innovation across Tamil Nadu.



Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan launched the "Bosch Innovation Challenge" jointly organised by iTNT Hub and Bosch Global Software Technologies, to identify and support breakthrough ideas from researchers, innovators & startups that can build a "Foundational Security Strategy for IoT Products" for easy adoption by startups and MSMEs.

(For More Details Check Page No. 21 / visit:
<https://itnthub.tn.gov.in/bosch-innovation-challenge.html>)



The Hon'ble Minister also launched "IP Nexus 2026" jointly organised by Karpagam Innovation and Incubation Council and iTNT Hub. In the presence of the Minister, PSG-STEP exchanged a MoU with iTNT Hub to



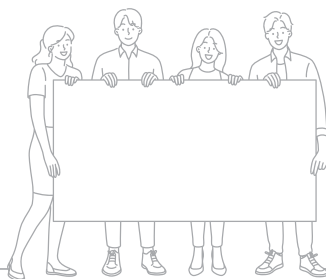
establish the Hub's Satellite Office in Coimbatore. A co-incubation agreement was exchanged between iTNT Hub and Karpagam Innovation & Incubation Council, making it the Hub's 27th co-incubation partner in Tamil Nadu.



The occasion was graced by Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO of iTNT Hub; Mr. Naved Narayan, Vice President, Head R&D Center, Bosch Global Software Technologies; CA. G. Ramaswamy, former President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India; Dr. S. Ravi, Vice Chancellor, and Dr. B.V. Pradeep, Registrar, Karpagam Academy of Higher Education; Mr. K. Suresh Kumar, Executive Director, PSG - STEP; Dr. K. Manonmani, Principal, GCT - Coimbatore; industry representatives, heads of engineering colleges, startup founders and innovators from the region.

Coimbatore Region on JIGSAW

- The JIGSAW platform of iTN Hub has a robust network of 172 engineering colleges from across the State, including 61 colleges from the Coimbatore Region.
- A total of 2,570 researchers, patent holders and applicants from these 61 colleges are part of the JIGSAW platform.
- It may be recalled that these researchers have filed 1,137 patent applications, of which 117 have been granted.
- They are actively engaging with iTNT Hub and getting support for idea validation, incubation, IP protection and Technology Transfer.



Chief Guest Address

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS

The Hon'ble Minister highlighted the big gap between output of education institutions & the needs of the economy and the future of careers till 2021, and the strides taken by the Government through landmark initiatives like iTNT Hub, Naan Mudhalvan and StartupTN among others to bridge the gap.

Pointing out at the dependence on AI agents and reduction of manpower by leading corporates, he stated that all this comes back to the face of the cycle where we need to see a lot more MSMEs, Startups, innovators, a lot more ideas about solving problems felt daily in our communities and societies rather than the global notion of a search engine or a B2B & B2C platforms.

The Government wants to bring as many IPs, new ideas, patents, inventions, approaches, together with the resources required to convert those ideas into functional products (mostly) or services, he said and added that the Government has a big role to play. "We are continuously striving to expand our network to expand our scope of how many startups we can incubate, mentor, connect to funding," he said.

"In particular providing access to labs, resources that can help test, validate, design, build, and also business aspects of it – to form companies, file patents, to make sure compliance with the law, labour, safety, to connect you with mentorship, capital, funding sources that can effectively nurture the ideas, the talent, work ethics that entrepreneurs and innovators bring into meaningful outcomes for you, the community and the people," the Minister added.

According to the minister, the actual ambition is very clear – try and bring people who have great ideas together with the kinds of resources to support systems, advisory activities that can make those ideas into successful outcomes for the entrepreneur, for the innovator and for society.

Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan said that the IT & DS Department has been organising global conferences like UmanageTN, which is getting bigger and better every year, expanding the minds of young people by showcasing native success stories of scaling startups and those selling them through big deals. Startups are provided space free of cost and at



reduced costs. UmanageTN has also made people from outside the country to understand the scale and the potential of the startups we have here.

Talking about the Sell to Government (S2G) initiative that he announced as the finance minister, to help departments procure from startups for various problem statements, he recalled his interaction with startup founders at the Tech Showcase earlier that day.

He observed, "a great fit between innovation, startups, new ideas, some of which I have seen today in the healthcare space, in the cleaning of waterbodies space, in the monitoring of energy usage for green buildings," that could either be directly used by the Government or could be used by the Government to get better outcomes for the state and the people through some other regulation or guidelines.

"We are already keeping with the Chief Minister's view that not everything should be Chennai centric. Though we started iTNT Hub in Chennai, we already opened regional offices in Trichy and Madurai – as I announced in the assembly – and now in Coimbatore," he said and highlighted the impact of iTNT Hub for the Coimbatore region through its network of mentors, investors and the JIGSAW platform.

He concluded saying, the future belongs to those who dream, those who create. The old models are all dying out. The world is going through its more fluid transition phases, and we have been trying our best so that we are not left behind. The iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub will provide many types brewing resources and connectivity to people who are innovating," he added.

Special Address

**Mr. Naved Narayan, Vice President, Head R&D Centre,
Bosch Global Software Technologies, Coimbatore**



Extremely happy to see that Coimbatore is getting the right place in the technology space. When we talk about technology, we talk about what an emerging hub like Coimbatore can really do in taking this journey forward. This is just a start that brings the required focus on this topic. Many of our innovations from Coimbatore happens out of the talent from this ecosystem.

Coimbatore talks less and does a lot. Lot of innovators from Coimbatore do work silently. From that perspective it is important to bring the right focus including Governmental bodies, investors who look for nice smart ideas, companies like Bosch who can in fact work with innovators and scale the idea globally. It is extremely important to bring that ecosystem.

There is a demand for home grown technologies more than ever. We are in fact sandwiched because of the geopolitical situation. If innovators and startups come together and convert that into realise commercialiseable ideas, products and solutions, we have a sweet spot.

Startups showcase quite a lot in Deep & Emerging Tech. Here we are talking about serious product business. it is extremely difficult to take forward and commercialise, but I can see the passion and focus on such technology space. There are agencies like iTNT Hub playing a large role, bringing government connect, funding opportunities, orchestrating industrialisation of technologies in a global scale.

As a corporate we participate with iTNT Hub and other startup agencies in Tamil Nadu, working together to figure out how those ideas, products are beneficial for our product portfolio. On one side we can take those IPs into our product areas or work together for go-to-market. We already see quite a lot of interesting positive developments there.

Coimbatore can play a larger role in Indian technology space in the next years. The next stage of employment is not going to be traditional but people who step out, create startups, create job opportunities for a lot of people and bring world class products and solutions from cities like Coimbatore.



Special Address

Dr. K. Suresh Kumar, Executive Director, PSG-STEP

For a startup money can come from any source. But we should have access to the right kind of mentors who can have the journey with entrepreneurs for 3-4 months. Mentorship is patient towards grooming someone, enjoying the success of an individual or industry. Getting connect with the right kind of mentor is not easy. That too, for people from Coimbatore. Chennai and Delhi have, but being Tier II & III like us, there are challenges in getting the right kind of mentors.

That's where programs of iTNT Hub give access to mentors as a cohort. In a cohort you get the opportunity to interact with fellow entrepreneurs. Exchange of knowledge and partnerships are happening, where two startups come together to develop products, complementing each other. If you have planned your journey from ideation to product development for 2-3 years, with mentorship you can achieve in 1-2 years. Being part of cohort, initiatives and incubation makes you to take a decision to go or not go.

Happy to see that lot of corporates have joined hands with iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub. The Innovation Challenge with Bosch gives opportunities for students and youngsters to participate, refine your technical skills,



makes you think solutions to address problems of corporates and society. The Hub also opens doors to 3rd and 4th year engineering students to gain work experience as an intern in startups and work with cutting edge technologies. This will help you become an entrepreneur or intrapreneur.

In today's scenario money is chasing ideas. Don't worry about funding. Don't have a feel of missing a funding opp. Bet on validating ideas, the solution for problems and if it has a market. If you are able to prove that your solution has a market, then money will be behind you.

Welcome Address & Context Setting

Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO, iTNT Hub



Elaborated the purpose behind establishment of the iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub as part of the Government of Tamil Nadu's strategic move to democratise and strengthen the Deep & Emerging Tech innovation ecosystem beyond Chennai. She highlighted how the Hub differs from incubators and works with them to extend support for mentorship and global market access.

"We want to unite and champion the Deep Tech and Emerging Tech startups. We are at the forefront of a very different era. Deep Tech is always driven by ground-breaking scientific advancements. The Regional Hub will extend the benefits of the iTNT Hub to a wider range of researchers, startups, academia, industry and other stakeholders.

In addition to the co-working spaces the hub offers startups and researchers access to all the programs and initiatives of the hub, including technology transfer. The Regional Hub will help researchers and innovators of Coimbatore get access to iTNT Hub's initiatives including idea validation, incubation, acceleration, patent and intellectual property protection, and technology transfer, among other flagship initiatives.

For the Industry, iTNT Hub collaborates with corporates and local industries to get innovative solutions through Innovation Challenges. Winners and top solutions from these challenges get nurtured by the Hub to translate into startup ventures or transfer technologies to the industry", she added.



Mr. Daniel Prabhakaran, Associate Vice President – Partnerships, iTNT Hub, spoke on the Deep Tech Hardware Product Design Scheme, which offers high subsidies to help startups and researchers convert ideas into a Minimum Viable Products. The soon to be launched voucher program focusses on making the product ergonomic and aesthetically appealing along with technical integration. He also dwelt into great detail on the Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for Deep Tech Innovations and its strides to protect IP while bridging the gap between academia and industry.

Vote of Thanks

Dr. K. Manonmani, Principal, GCT, Coimbatore

Thanked iTNT Hub for expanding to Coimbatore and establishing the Regional Hub at the Government College of Technology premises. She expressed confidence that the iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub will play a key role in the emergence of Deep & Emerging Tech startups from colleges, benefiting researchers as well as students with the dream to make it big.



Tech Showcase

A Tech Showcase by 16 Deep Tech and Emerging Tech startups and innovators was organised as part of the inaugural of the iTNT Coimbatore Regional Hub. The Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS, Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan,

interacted with all the founders and innovators individually. CEO of iTNT Hub Ms. Vanitha Venugopal and other dignitaries were also present on the occasion. Here is a bird's eye view of the Tech Showcase.



In NEWS Coimbatore Regional Hub

THE HINDU

THE TIMES OF INDIA

தினமணி

THE HINDU
City

ITNT Hub starts operations in Coimbatore

[illegible]

Regional hub of i-Tamil Nadu Technology opened in city

TECH NEWS NEWS

Colombo: Information technology and digital services minister Palaniyandhi Thiagarajan inaugurated the regional office of the ITANI (Information Technology for National Industry) Technology (TNTN) on the Govt. College of Technology premises in Battaramulla.

It is the first regional centre of TNTN Hub in western Tamil Nadu, the third in the country. This centre will support emerging tech startups and research.

During the event, PSG Engineering established an MoU with the centre, establishing the hub's satellite office in Colombo. Also, a co-innovation agreement was signed between TNTN Hub and Karpagam Innovation & Incubation Centre. The hub's first incubation partner in Tamil Nadu.

While addressing the participants at the event, the min-

TECH PULSE Minister Palaniyandhi Thiagarajan inaugurated the office on Saturday

ister spoke about the growth of artificial intelligence (AI). He said, "AI is becoming an increasingly unpredictable actor across the world and has impacted the economy of global nations. We need to witness more of a fragmented globalisation post-Covid. Similarly, we need to see new monopolies in technology, like internet firms, merchant banks and e-commerce. The fact is that tech monopoly is reducing the limits for regulatory actions. One of the critical success nations would not be governed by AI," he said.

He said, "We need to see more innovators, startups, ideas and solutions to day-to-day problems. Our main priority is to be as many as intellectual and professional like ideas and work, into functional products. While interacting with entrepreneurs, we need to see business, software and others, it was pretty clear that the disruption of the old paradigm is directly adopted their concepts in collaborate with them to implement."

He stated that steps to establish similar hubs in other parts of the country had to be taken soon.

The minister launched the TNTN Hub's website for easy adoption by startups and MSMEs. He also launched the TNTN Hub's first commercialization, technology transfer and explore opportunities for the growing market-ready solutions.

ஏ.ஐ. தொழில்நுட்பத்தால்
வேலைவாய்ப்புகள் குறையும்

தலைவர் தலைமையில் நடைபெற்ற இரண்டாம் நேரம் கருத்துரைகள் கேட்கும் நேரத்தில் தலைவர் அவர்கள் கருத்துரைகள் கேட்டார். தலைவர் அவர்கள் கருத்துரைகள் கேட்டார். தலைவர் அவர்கள் கருத்துரைகள் கேட்டார்.

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

தினகான்

பம்பாய்
வை'

ஏறு தொழில்நுட்பத்தால் வேலைவாய்ப்பு குறைகிறது

அமைச்சர் பி.டி.ஆர் பழனிவேல் தியாகராஜன் கவலை

வேலை வாய்ப்பு: ஸ்டாப்டு அட் திஸ் டைம் கன்கரூட் துயிற்றோடு அக் ஸ்டூட்ஸ் ஆஃப் அபிவிருத்தி அமைச்சர் பி.டி.ஆர் பழனிவேல் தியாகராஜன் தெரிவித்தார்.

கோவை தடாஸ் ரோட்டுக்கு உள்ள அரசினர் தொழில்நுட்ப கல்வி நிறுவனம் (பிஐடி) இல் கோவை மண்டலம் தலைமையிடம் நடைபெற்று கொண்டிருக்கும் தொழில்நுட்பத் துறைகள் அமைச்சர் பி.டி.ஆர் பழனிவேல் தியாகராஜன் தலைமையில் கூட்டம் நடைபெற்று வருகிறது.

கோவை தடாஸ் ரோட்டில் உள்ள அரசினர் தொழில்நுட்ப கல்வி நிறுவனம் (பிஐடி) இல் கோவை மண்டலம் தலைமையிடம் நடைபெற்று கொண்டிருக்கும் தொழில்நுட்பத் துறைகள் அமைச்சர் பி.டி.ஆர் பழனிவேல் தியாகராஜன் தலைமையில் கூட்டம் நடைபெற்று வருகிறது.

THE HINDU

Club starts operations in Coimbatore

COIMBATORE, July 27 (PTI) - Coimbatore Technology Club has started its operations in Coimbatore on Saturday.



The club, which is a joint venture of the Tamil Nadu Technology (TNTN), Coimbatore regional hub.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Minister inaugurates regional iTNT Hub in Coimbatore

Anushka Juiet / TNN / Updated: Nov 22, 2025, 23:52 IST

Share
AA
Sitemap



COIMBATORE: Minister of Information Technology and digital services Palaniivel Thiaga Rajan inaugurated the Coimbatore regional hub of the i-Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) on the Government College of Technology campus here on Saturday.

The iTNT Coimbatore regional hub is the first regional centre of iTNT Hub in western Tamil Nadu and the third in the state. This centre will support deep and emerging tech startups and researchers.

During the event, PSG-STEP exchanged an MoU with iTNT Hub to establish the hub's satellite office in Coimbatore. A co-incubation agreement was exchanged between iTNT Hub and Karpagam Innovation & Incubation Council, making it the hub's 27th co-incubation partner in Tamil Nadu.

While addressing the participants at the event, the minister spoke about the growth of artificial intelligence. He said, "The growth of AI has been unpredictable across the world and has impacted the concept of globalisation. We get to witness more of a fragmented globalisation post-Covid. Similarly, we are starting to see monopolies in technology, like internet firms, merchant services and others. The fact is that tech monopoly is reaching its limits for regulatory reasons, as most of the civilised nations would not want to be ruled by it."

TN Govt fully backing startups to drive innovation: PTR

Td + 2 min read



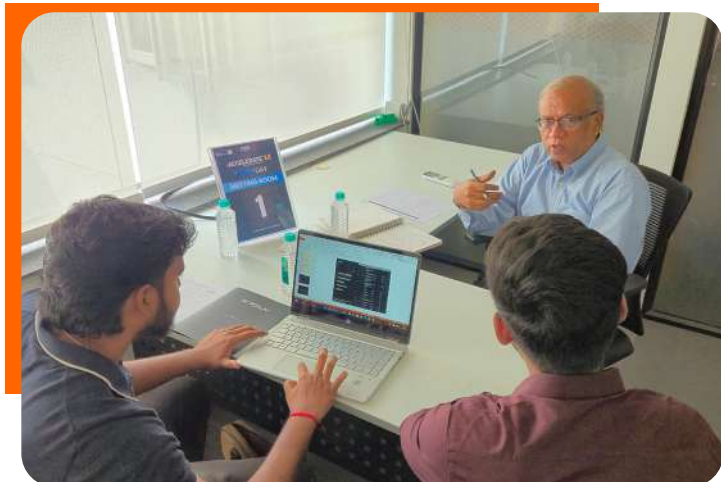
COIMBATORE: Tamil Nadu Information Technology Minister Palaniivel Thiaga Rajan on Saturday reiterated the State government's commitment to supporting startups and fostering technological innovation. He was speaking after inaugurating the Tamil Nadu Technology (iTNT) Coimbatore Regional Hub at the Government College of Technology (GCT) on Thadagam Road.

What's Brewing

@ iTNT Hub

iAccelerate 2.0 Demo Day

28 Investors | 21 Startups | 151 Connections

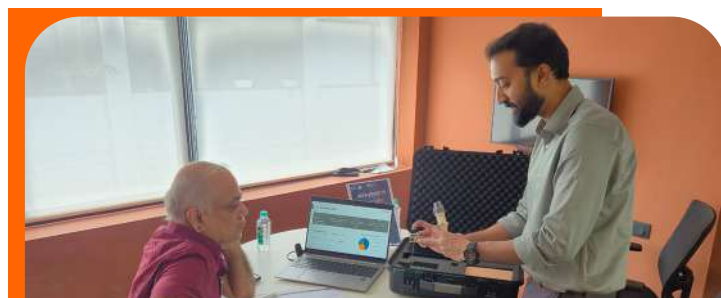


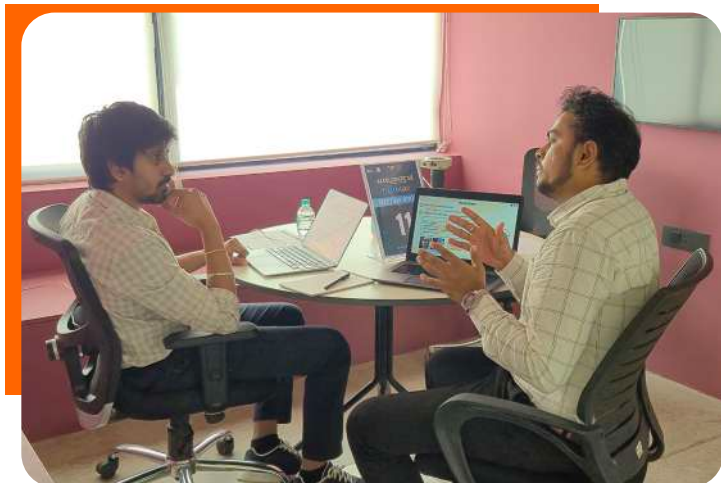
The second cohort of iTNT Hub's flagship acceleration program iAccelerate 2.0 conclude with a series of speed dating between 28 investor firms and 21 startups that were part of the cohort. As many as 113 physical and virtual meetings were established between the startups and investors at the Demo Day on November 14, followed by 38 more connections virtually between November 20 and 27.



The iTNT Demo Day marked a significant milestone in advancing Tamil Nadu's deep and emerging tech innovation ecosystem. Startups from the Drone, Space Tech, Smart Manufacturing, Cyber Security, Healthcare & Lifesciences, AI/ML, Robotics, Geospatial, Sustainability, Climate Tech, and EV / Mobility startups actively engaged with early-stage investors, including VCs, angel networks, and institutional backers.

Enabling one-on-one pitches and meetings between startups and aligned investors, the Demo Day encouraged focused discussions around collaboration and investment. It served as a key platform for founders to pitch their innovations and explore funding and strategic partnership opportunities, highlighting their progress, market readiness, and potential for future growth.





These interactions generated strong investor interest, multiple follow-up opportunities, and discussions around strategic partnerships and market expansion. Several investors also expressed keen interest in mentoring the startups and taking them to the next stage of growth, further reinforcing the value of iTNT Hub's role in fostering deep tech entrepreneurship and strengthening the state's innovation pipeline.

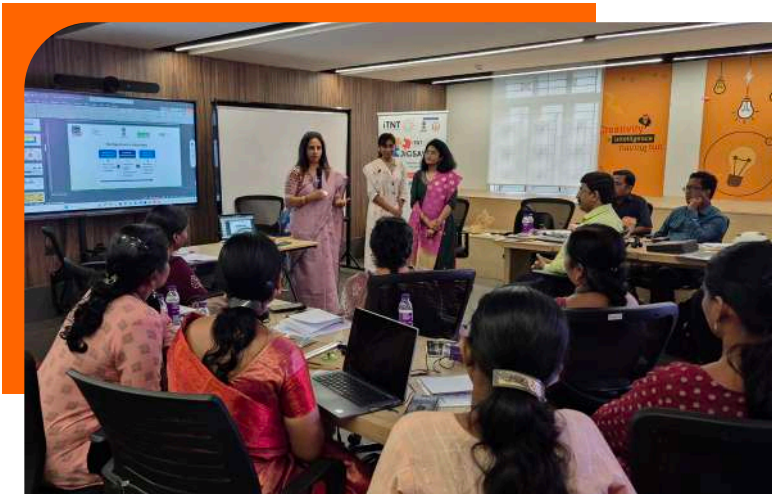
Investment Collaborators



Pitching Startups



Patent Analytics Hands on Workshop



Researchers, patent holders, innovators and faculties benefited from the one-day Hands on Patent Analytics Workshop organised by the Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for Deep Tech innovations in collaboration with NRDC at iTNT Hub, Chennai, on November 5, 2025.

Dr. Bhavya Manjeera Patruni, Deputy General Manager & Scientist, NRDC, helped participants explore the key stages of the innovation funnel from ideation to commercialization – including critical success factors for technology transfer, IP protection strategies, portfolio management and licensing models for startups & research institutions.

In a post-lunch group activity, participants created a prototype using basic materials, guided by the five core stages of Empathize – Define – Ideate – Prototype – Test, fostering creativity, collaboration, and application of design-led innovation. They also performed live searches on WIPO and USPTO platforms.

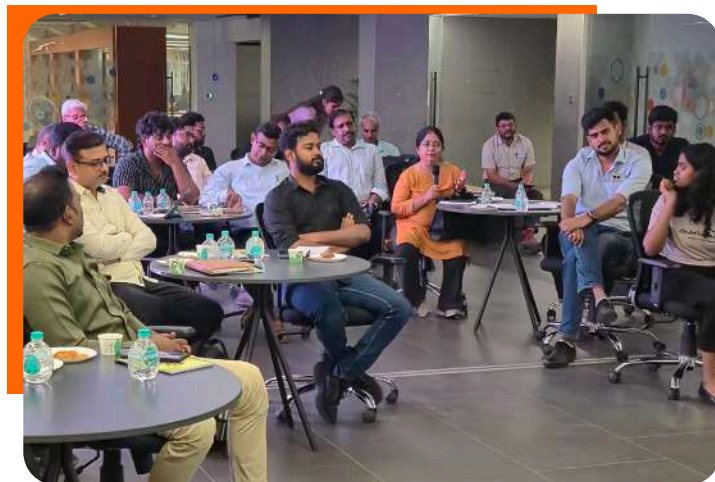
The workshop strengthened the participants' ability to apply IP, Patent and technology transfer principles in their professional domains, aligning with iTNT Hub's broader vision to build Tamil Nadu's innovation ecosystem through knowledge exchange, skill development, and national collaboration.

Coffee with CEO



Founders of Deep Tech & Emerging Tech startups from iTNT Hub's PATHFINDER incubation program had two light-hearted and engaging "Coffee with CEO" sessions with iTNT Hub CEO Ms. Vanitha Venugopal at the Hub, Chennai, in November.

The founders shared their ideas, progress with iTNT Hub, and support needed to scale internationally. Startups thanked the Hub for creating opportunities with tangible outcomes at thematic national & international expos, yielding relevant matchmaking.



Ms. Vanitha Venugopal reiterated iTNT Hub's commitment to the startups and innovators by preparing them for mentorship, investment readiness and access to markets in the government and private sector nationally and internationally.

The senior management team of iTNT Hub and heads of various initiatives of the Hub were also present on the Coffee with CEO sessions, providing timely solutions and support to the startup founders.

Masterclass Building Investor-Ready Pitch Decks



Through an engaging and insightful masterclass, Mr. Krishnan Naganathan – Author of Innovation GPS & Nine Stages of Innovation – introduced startup founders to the transformative paradigm of "Building Investor-Ready Pitch Decks" emphasizing both its theoretical underpinnings and practical applications. The session was part of iTNT Hub's continuous efforts to strengthen the fundraising capabilities of early-stage deep-tech entrepreneurs.

The Masterclass focused on how startups can articulate innovation, market gaps, and business value in a manner

that resonates with investor expectations. Participants were guided through the components of an effective pitch deck, along with insights into how investor perspectives evolve depending on the type of innovation – whether push-driven or pull-driven. Key Themes Covered:

- Understanding Innovation Rent and how it influences value capture.
- Step-by-step structure for designing an investor-ready pitch deck.
- Techniques for framing innovation in relation to existing market gaps.
- Distinguishing feasibility from viability in the context of customer acquisition and market entry.
- Investor mindset: how expectations shift depending on whether the innovation is push-driven or pull-driven.

- Communicating market opportunity, business model, and traction effectively.
- Presenting deep-tech solutions in a simplified and compelling narrative.

The session enabled participants to rethink how they communicate their ideas to investors and provided them with a practical blueprint for structuring a high-impact pitch deck. Founders gained clarity on how to position their innovation, validate its relevance to market needs, and highlight the commercial opportunity.

Banking Beyond Products with Kotak Mahindra Bank

Startup founders had a deep dive into collateral free business loans for startups and gained valuable insights into support offered by Kotak Mahindra Bank at the session on “Banking Beyond Products for the Startup Ecosystem”, by Mr. Sundar JS, Regional Portfolio Manager of the bank, at iTNT Hub, Chennai, on November 12.

Participating entrepreneurs gained insights into financial offerings beyond traditional banking, various grant opportunities available for startups, benefits of current accounts tailored for startups and how banks are moving forward to help startups across non-financial domains including mentorship, market access and more.



IP Clinic



The Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for DeepTech Innovations, at iTNT Hub, in collaboration with Puthran & Associates conducted the monthly IP Clinic at iTNT Hub, Chennai, on November 28, 2025. The IP Clinic helped Deep & Emerging Tech



startups and innovators navigate the complexities of Intellectual Property. benefited from this IP Clinic and received mentorship on IP protection, IP filing request, IPR, and Clarity on Trademarks.

Hindustan Chambers of Commerce

TiE Chennai leaders Mr. Sundararaman Krishnamoorthy, Chairman, Hindustan Chambers of Commerce Startup Committee; and Mr. Ramesh Dugar, President, HCC; visited iTNT Hub on 7th November 2025, exploring collaboration opportunities between the two organisations. Mentorship for iTNT Hub startups were among the various aspects they discussed with Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, iTNT Hub CEO; Mr. Nikhil Muppavarapu, VP – Incubation, Mr. Nirmal Panicker, AVP – Investments, Mr. Dinesh, AVP – Operations, and Mr. Amar Kapil Verma, Senior Manager – Programs, iTNT Hub



Chimera VC



Mr. Krish Anurag, Managing Partner, Mr. Yashmit Kedia, COO, and Mr. Sagar Nair Head of Initiatives and Incubation, Chimera VC, visited iTNT Hub and had an engaging discussion with Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO iTNT Hub, Mr. Nikhil Muppavarapu, VP – Incubation, Mr. Nirmal Panicker, AVP – Investments, Mr. Dinesh, AVP – Operations, and Mr. Ajit Daniels, Manager – Innovation Network. A key point of interest was the alignment of both organizations in supporting emerging sectors. The conversation also highlighted the possibility of potential investments by Chimera VC in AVGC startups and related startups from the iTNT Hub portfolio, marking a promising direction for collaboration.

Jeroen Tas at iTNT Hub

Jeroen Tas, a global tech investor, innovation leader and former Chief Innovation & Strategy Officer at Philips along with Mr. Gopi Koteeswaran, serial entrepreneur and former CEO of DirectLife, Philips, had a strategic discussion with Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO iTNT Hub, and team. The discussions touched upon potential partnerships with innovation ecosystems connected to Jeroen and mentoring startups associated with iTNT Hub, paving the way for deeper strategic engagement.

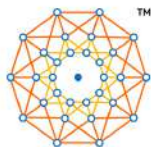


BOSCH Innovation Challenge

FUNDED & ESTABLISHED BY



iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB



BOSCH

Bosch
Global
Software
Technologies
alt_future

Bosch Innovation Challenge

Reimagine IoT Security

Calling Startups | Innovators | Researchers

Problem Statement

Develop a foundational IoT security framework empowering organizations embed security-by-design into IoT product development, ensure compliance with global standards, and build trustworthy connected systems. The solution must support structured, scalable, and sustainable security implementation throughout the IoT lifecycle.

Who should Apply



Early-stage &
growth-stage startups



Academic
Researchers



R&D Teams



Innovators

Working on:

- IoT Security
- Embedded Systems
- Cybersecurity
- Device Authentication
- Data Privacy
- Cloud Security

Why Participate?

- Opportunity to collaborate with Bosch
- Access to mentorship, tools, resources, funding pathways, and incubation support
- Chance to pitch solutions to investors, corporate leaders, and ecosystem partners



Register Before:

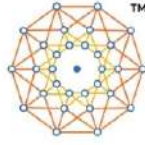
**11 December
2025**

Mapathon

FUNDED & ESTABLISHED BY



Ecosystem Partner



Organized by



MAPATHON

2025

Innovation through automation and next-generation mapping techniques

Automated | Scalable | Reproducible | Commercially Viable | Real-time solutions

Problem Statements

- Automated Change Mapping
- Automated Water Spread Detection & Volume Estimation
- Automated Shoreline Analysis
- Comprehensive Cataloging & Documentation of Map Datasets

Categories



Academic Institutions



Researchers & Scientists



Startups

Prizes



₹50,000
+ Trophy



₹25,000
+ Trophy



₹10,000
+ Trophy

& Comprehensive Support from iTNT Hub
(visit www.itnthub.tn.gov.in)

Register Here



Register before: **12th December 2025**

At Our Regional Hubs

BEACON Trichy Cohort



The iTNT Trichy Regional Hub hosted the first edition of iTNT Hub's flagship idea validation workshop BEACON outside Chennai. The 4-day BEACON 7.0 workshop from November 25 to 28 benefited 17 startup founders and innovators from the region. The cohort began with a virtual address by Ms. Vanitha Venugopal, CEO of

iTNT Hub, followed by special address by Dr. T. Senthilkumar, Dean - Anna University, Tiruchirappalli; and Mr. Sushil Kumar, CEO - Centre for Entrepreneur Development and Innovation, NIT Trichy. Here is a glimpse of the in-depth sessions at BEACON 7.0.

Day 1

Mr. Vinoth Malaikani, CEO - EDII-ABIRF, spoke on identifying business opportunities and build effective teams with the right skills. Mr. Sriraaman, Board Member, IAMUSAP Ventures Pvt. Ltd., helped the participants understand key legal needs, compliances, and founder agreements for startups. Mr. Sreevatsan- CEO, & Co - Founder, Guest Guru, helped dwell in detail on competitors and position the product effectively in the market.



Day 2



The day began with Ms. Sai Meera and Mr. Balaji, Surana & Surana International Attorneys, diving deep into building an IP strategy, conduct audits, and understanding the process of filing patents and trademarks. Dr. Gnanavel Mutharasu Founder & CEO, Genix.ai, helped the participants understand how to enter the market early, set the right price, and attract first customers. Prof. L. Somasundaram, Assistant Professor – BIM, walked through defining customer value clearly and exploring revenue models.

Day 3

Day 3 began with an in-depth session on product development lifecycle & prototyping by Dr. Pradeep N, R&D Head, Full Chain International India Private Limited (Taiwan). Mr. Deepak Karthik Selvamani, Chief of Bureau (Trichy), The Times of India, navigated the participants through building a strong brand identity and design user-friendly products. Mr. Salman N, Co-founder & COO, Propeller Technologies, elaborated on rapid prototyping techniques & design sprints. It was followed by an overview of iTNT Hub's Incubation Program.



Day 4



On the final day each participant had a 1-on-1 pitching session, wherein they confidently presented their products and solutions to an expert panel comprising mentors, investors and other stakeholders. The personalised session helped them get valuable feedback to shape their entrepreneurial journey. Enthusiastic participants shared their testimonies at the valedictory and evinced interest to be incubated through iTNT Hub's PATHFINDER program.



Founder Stories

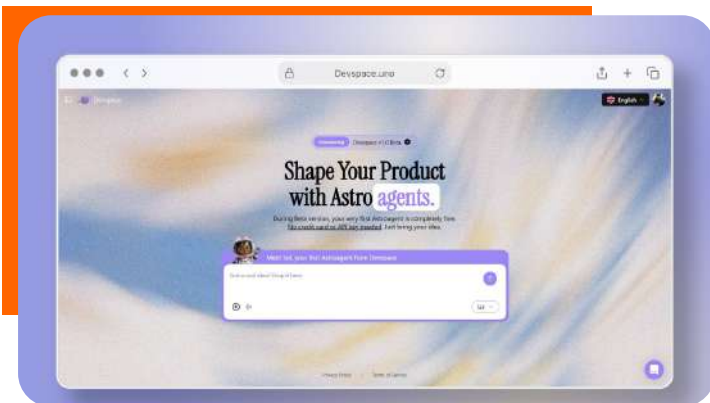
@ iTNT Hub

VoxWave AI Pvt Ltd



Himayun (Centre) & Team

In a nutshell, VoxWave is the tale of two Gen Z interns who worked as interns at an AI startup for nearly 8 months, were deceived without payment and went ahead to launch their own startup with exposure they gained. Using free resources and cloud support they have now launched their beta product with support provided by iTNT Hub. "In less than a month of launching our Devspace beta v1, we have over 200 users from 19 countries," says 24-year-old Himayun S., the Co-founder & CEO of VoxWave AI Pvt Ltd.



As a 2nd year BBA student, he gained interest in the tech space, learnt full stack development and started freelancing. That is when a startup founder got in touch with him to intern at his firm. Working on the MVP development of the startup in a team of four other interns, he met Mukesh Sadhasivam, a B.Tech student,

who would later become the Co-founder & CTO of VoxWave AI.

Mukesh was interned at a Robotics firm in China before he joined Himayun as a fellow intern in Chennai. They worked for six months, didn't get paid and were later offered stock options, which happened neither. However, the most valuable takeaway for the then 22-year-old gentlemen at that time was companionship, exposure to invaluable connects and the startup ecosystem, which gave them the drive to identify and work towards a problem statement.

After nearly eight months of internship and taking the product, they were developing to the launch stage, Himayun and Mukesh called it a day to register VoxWave AI in January 2024. The duo with the vision to launch their own AI LLM, started taking the first steps to prepare themselves for a short-term goal before bolstering resources for the bigger dream.

"We are entrepreneurs by accident" Himayun chuckled, adding it was not an easy journey personally and professionally, where convincing his parents – who were into embroidery making – was among the greatest challenges. While doing market research and they identified the need for a functional CRM where users could text and develop their own websites and apps. He took up freelancing jobs for a few months till he started getting glued to product development.

VoxWave AI's journey peaked since they engaged with iTNT Hub in December 2024. They became part of the PATHFINDER 2.0 (AI Cohort) that was launched by the Hon'ble Minister for IT & DS Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, at UimagineTN 2025. In a remarkable turn of events this startup has completely developed their product using free resources – USD 1,000 Microsoft credits and USD 10,000 AWS credits – through iTNT Hub and additional support in the form of co-working spaces, mentorship, masterclasses and investor pitching sessions.

Devspace, an AI powered full stack development environment runs entirely in the browser, designed to make software creation as simple as describing an idea. Without coding or struggling with complex development setups, users can simply explain what they want in plain English. Devspace's intelligent agent system interprets the idea, asks clarifying questions, and auto generates the complete application including frontend, backend, database structure, and deployment flow.

Engineered to help both technical and non-technical users bring their ideas to life, the platform includes an interactive visual preview, allowing users to see their app's structure before it is built. This eliminates guesswork and reduces errors, making the entire development cycle faster and more predictable. Users can edit, refine, or extend their applications by giving additional instructions. The AI continuously updates the project without breaking existing features.

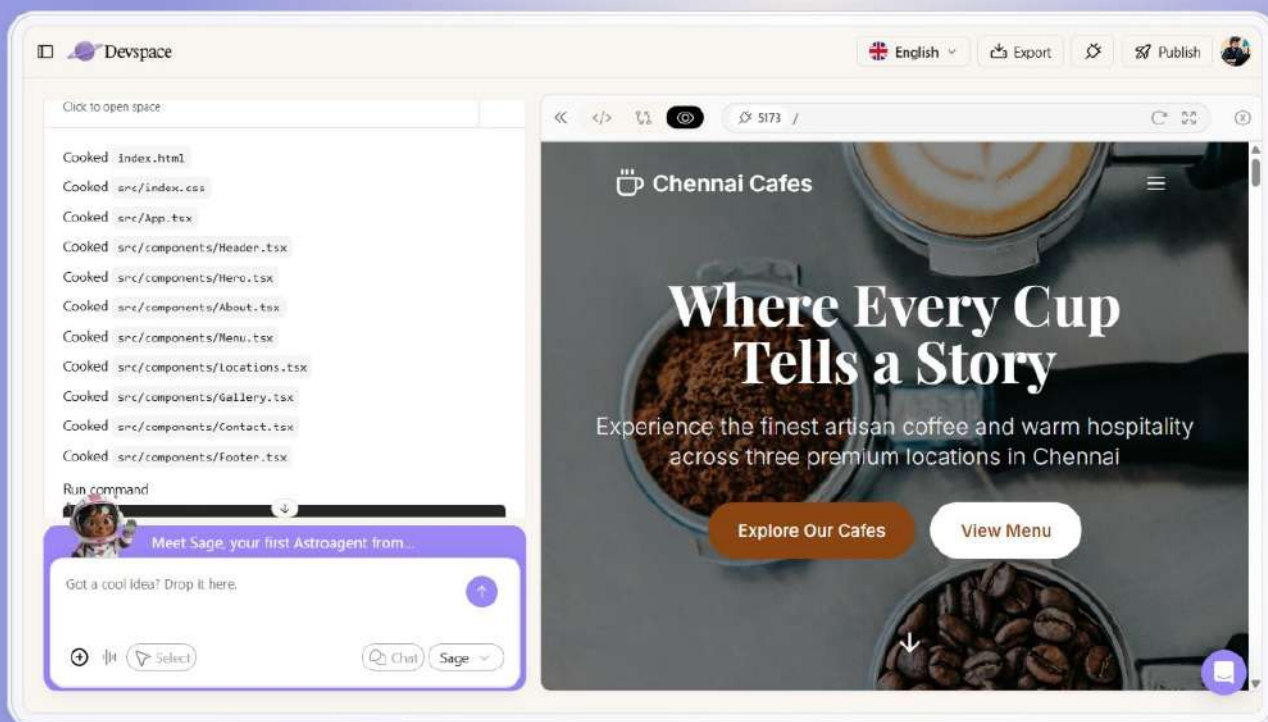
Whether it's a simple landing page, a complex SaaS product, or a startup MVP, Devspace removes traditional technical barriers and reduces development time dramatically. "Got a cool idea? Drop it here," flaunts Sol

their first astroagent on the landing page of <https://www.devspace.uno/>. Launched on November 6, 2025, this beta v1 version – that is free only till New Year's Eve – has been used by 200 persons.

The users ranging from startup founders, website development firms, tech aspirants and students are using Sol to create their portfolio, website and MVP from less than a minute to 5 minutes. Nearly 50% of them are from India, followed by 25% from Europe – predominantly Spain, where Mukesh is trying to gain market and support to scale their venture.

VoxWave AI has closed an 'Devspace Enterprise' version deal with a web development firm and are trying to acquire a few more enterprise clients before their scheduled public launch by May 2026. As Himayun and his team of seven including five core members and three interns are eyeing investment and traction, the 24-year-old has won the understanding and support of his parents to an extent that they have allowed his college going brother Sameer be a part of the startup.

The young team aspires to achieve their AI LLM dream with the right resources – humans, machines and funds.



DeepTech

Insights

Agnikul Raises \$17 Million at \$500 Million Valuation; Focus on Orbital Launch, Booster Recovery

Chennai-based Agnikul Cosmos recently raised ₹150 crore in November 2025 from a group of family offices and institutional investors, valuing the company at around \$500 million. The funds will be used to launch their second orbital mission, which includes recovering boosters or propulsion systems of the launch vehicle on a barge – a first in the world for small launch vehicles.



Scan to read the full article

What will it take for India to Lead on Deep Tech and the Global Space Race?

India's moment in deep tech and space has advanced from a distant promise and is now underway, via satellites, rockets, robots and manufacturing hubs. It is being further amplified by funding rounds, policy shifts and a new generation of founders. The question is no longer if India can be a global deep tech player and innovate technologically; it is how fast and how well.



Scan to read the full article

₹1 lakh crore RDI Fund to promote private sector investments in research and development

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on November 3, 2025, launched the ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund to promote private sector investments in research and development. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is the nodal ministry of the RDI Fund that will operate through a two-tiered funding structure.



Scan to read the full article

Nvidia joins India Deep Tech Alliance as Group Secures \$850 million in New Capital

The India Deep Tech Alliance has added new investors—including Qualcomm Ventures, Activate AI, InfoEdge Ventures, Chirate Ventures and Kalaari Capital—to raise as much as \$850 million. Nvidia joins them as a founding member to provide technical guidance, training and policy input to help Indian deep-tech startups adopt its AI and computing tools.



Scan to read the full article



Startup

Hiring



Admini

Positions Vacant: 5

Role: Business Development

Work Mode: Hybrid

Stipend: Rs.7000.

Mobile number:
+91 9944291166

Email ID:
richards.dexa@gmail.com

Apply Soon



ESA Innovations Pvt Ltd

Positions Vacant: 3

Role: 1) Electrical Design Engineer
2) Structural Analyst
3) Mechanical Design Engineer

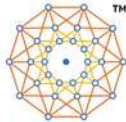
Job Type: Full Time

Mobile number:
+91 44 2345 0068

Email ID:
info@esainnovations.com

Apply Soon

iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB



Helping You Hire The Right Talents!

Emerging and Deep Tech startups in Tamil Nadu can now publish job openings
(both **Technical & Non-Technical**) in the iTNT Hub's 'Deep Dive' e-newsletter
free of cost.

FOR MORE DETAILS, CONTACT

Mr. Daniel @ 91766 08820

office@tnthub.org

Submit the required details by

DECEMBER 20, 2025

<http://www.itnthub.tn.gov.in>

FUNDED & ESTABLISHED BY



Ministry of Electronics
& Information Technology
Government of India



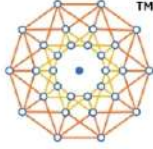
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TAMIL NADU TRUST



iTNT Hub

is Hiring

iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB



FUNDED & ESTABLISHED BY

सर्वोच्च
Ministry of Electronics
& Information Technology
Government of India

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
தமிழ்நாடு சர்க்கார்

WE ARE HIRING!



**Applications
Close on >>>>**

December 10, 2025

www.itnthub.tn.gov.in/careers.html

APPLY / KNOW MORE



Events on the Radar




Knowledge Partner

AWARENESS PROGRAM Innovation Voucher Program (IVP)

Cracking the IVP Grant

Do's & Don'ts

Winning Strategies for DeepTech Startups

Voucher-A

₹ 3,00,000

Entry into Research

Voucher-B

₹ 7,00,000

Entry into Market

IVP is a Government of Tamil Nadu initiative to promote research collaboration among MSMEs & Startups

10th Dec 2025
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

iTNT Hub
Chennai

Register Now



Follow Us : [in](#) [X](#) [ig](#) [f](#) /iTNTHub | [WhatsApp](#): (+91) 7305980220 | [www.itnthub.tn.gov.in](#)





AI Legal Draft Desk- IP Advisory

Support for Innovators & Startups

by Tamil Nadu Technology Transfer Facilitation Centre (TNTTFC) for Deep Tech Innovations

Focus Areas

- ✓ Contracts & Agreements for Startups
- ✓ Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)
- ✓ Cybertech and Data Protection
- ✓ AI Governance

12th December 2025

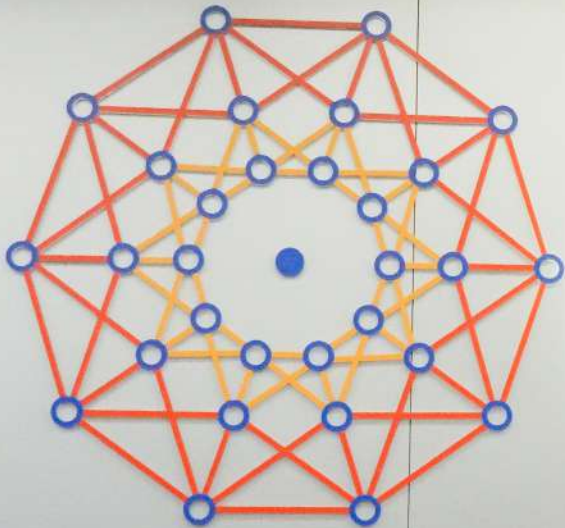
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

iTNT Hub, Chennai

Register Now



Follow Us : [in](#) [X](#) [ig](#) [f](#) /iTNTHub | [WhatsApp](#): (+91) 7305980220 | [www.itnthub.tn.gov.in](#)



iTNT
TAMILNADU TECHNOLOGY HUB

Connect with Us

Head Office - Chennai

3rd Floor, Sir C V Raman Science Block,
Anna University Campus, Kotturpuram,
Chennai – 600 025.

Trichy Regional Hub

University College of Engineering
Bharathidasan Institute of Technology Campus
Anna University, Tiruchirappalli – 620 024.

Madurai Regional Hub

Anna University Regional Campus, Madurai,
NH-7, Kanyakumari National Highway,
Keelakuilkudi Road, Madurai – 625 019.

Coimbatore Regional Hub

Government College of Technology (GCT)
Campus PJ-102, Platinum Jubilee building,
Thadagam Road, Coimbatore – 641013



Scan to follow us on our socials



www.itnthub.tn.gov.in



#INNOVATEINTAMILNADU #BUILDTHEFUTURE